

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Applicants respectfully request further examination and reconsideration in view of the instant response. The claims remaining in the present application are Claims 60, 61 and 69-111. Claims 1-59 and 62-68 are canceled. Claims 74-111 are newly added. No new matter has been added.

DECISION ON APPEAL

Claims 60, 61 and 69-73

The Decision on Appeal reversed the following rejections:

Claims 60 and 61, 65 and 69 rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kawai and Vandivier; and

Claims 70-73 rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Battas and Goldring.

Moreover, no other reasons have been provided for the rejection of Claims 60, 61 and 69-73. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that these claims are in a condition for allowance.

ALLOWABLE SUBJECT MATTER

The Final Office Action filed September 6, 2006 indicated that Claims 5-7, 23-28, 36-38, 54-59, 64 and 68 are allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Applicants wish to thank

the Examiner for indicating that Claims 5-7, 23-28, 36-38, 54-59, 64 and 68 are allowable when rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Applicants have entered new Claims 74-111. New independent Claim 74 incorporates the features of canceled Claims 1-4 and the allowable subject matter of canceled Claim 5. New independent Claim 85 incorporates the features of canceled Claim 1 and the allowable subject matter of canceled Claim 23. New independent Claim 91 incorporates the features of canceled Claims 32-35 and the allowable subject matter of canceled Claim 36. New independent Claim 102 incorporates the features of canceled Claim 32 and the allowable subject matter of canceled Claim 54. New independent Claim 107 incorporates the features of canceled Claim 62 and the allowable subject matter of canceled Claim 64. New independent Claim 109 incorporates the features of canceled Claim 65 and the allowable subject matter of canceled Claim 64. New independent Claim 110 incorporates the features of canceled Claim 66 and the allowable subject matter of canceled Claim 68.

Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that new Claims 74-111 are in condition for allowance.

CONCLUSION

Based on the arguments presented above, Applicants respectfully assert that Claims 60, 61 and 69-111 are in condition for allowance.

The Examiner is invited to contact Applicants' undersigned representative if the Examiner believes such action would expedite resolution of the present Application.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date: 12/20/2010

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